Clip Activity: Understanding the Graph
How has temperature changed in the last 140 years?

Graph Questions:

Take a look at the updated version of the graph displayed by Dr. Cox, and record work in your science journal or discuss the graph with a friend.

- Explain in your own words what this graph depicts.
- What were some of the coldest years on record?
- What were some of the warmest years on record?

Hints:
- This graph represents departures from global average surface temperature over the last ~140 years.
- The x-axis represents time by year.
- The y-axis represents amount of departure from the average temperature of 1961-1990.
- The red bars represent the average temperature of a single year (such as 1981), and the gray bars show the uncertainty in the measurements.
- The thick, blue line shows the average trend in temperature over time.